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Section A

OFFICIAL - INFORMAL

SECRET

May 23, 1963

Dear Bob:

Berlin's 1169 indicates that current US procedures provide for convoy commanders to authorize personnel to dismount when the convoy is carrying 31 or more men excluding drivers and assistant drivers.

The last UK instructions for convoy commanders in our files, which were issued in October 1962, provide for dismounting when a UK convoy has 41 or more men excluding drivers and assistant drivers, provided at least one vehicle carries 10 or more men.

BHQ CC-17 revised, dated March 21, 1963 (which was prepared in Bonn) says that Allied convoy commanders may dismount convoys which consist of more than eight vehicles or 40 personnel in addition to drivers and assistant drivers. (I regret to say that the original draft of this was prepared here in the Department, and I have been unable to find out for sure what it was based on.)

Needless to say, we might find it difficult to make a case for dismounting procedures in the face of this ambiguous situation. In the event that Berlin's 1169 did not lead you to make some inquiries, I should appreciate your investigating what the situation is and letting me know. At a minimum, I take it that some revision of HQD CC-17 would be in order.

Sincerely,

John C. Ausland

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